



EXHIBIT 7  
DATE 2/15/07  
HB 516

Februrary 15, 2007

TO: Chairman Sinrud and Members of the House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Del Lonnquist, Volunteer Advocate, AARP Montana

RE: **Support of HB 516, general fund appropriation for affordable housing account**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for the record my name is Del Lonnquist, volunteer advocate for AARP Montana. AARP is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to bettering the lives of people 50 and over.

AARP Montana supports HB 516, a general fund appropriation for the Housing Montana Fund expanded in LC 615. AARP understands the importance of investing in appropriate and affordable housing. According to a report done by the Commission on Affordable Housing, the nation's affordable housing inventory is diminishing as the demand increases. Communities are losing diverse and affordable housing that is essential to meet the needs of all residents. The problem is especially acute for older residents with modest, fixed income sources.

We urge your approval of HB 516.